

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PCH-02 AS-01 SCEM-02 TRSE-00

SCI-06 COME-00 EB-11 ACDA-19 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /169 W

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R 111854Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6032

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 1000

DEPT POUCH TO TEL AVIV

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, FR, SA

SUBJECT FRENCH ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: PARIS 694

1. ISRAELI CHARGE HADASS GAVE US THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
ON FRENCH ARMS DEALS WITH SAUDI ARABIA:

A. ON ONE CONTRACT, THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN
DELIVERED THROUGH THE END OF 1973:

147 AML TANKS EQUIPPED WITH 90 MM CANNONS
73 AML TANKS EQUIPPED WITH 60 MM MORTARS;
75 TO 80 THOUSAND SHELLS FOR THESE TANKS;

RADIO AND INFRA-RED EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS
WITH TOTAL VALUE OF 25 MILLION FRANCS.

B. A SECOND CONTRACT WHICH ORIGINALLY PROVIDED FOR THE
DELIVERY OF THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT BY JAN 1977 WILL BE
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EXECUTED BY THE END OF 1974:

150 AMX TANKS EQUIPPED WITH 105 MM CANNONS;
6 AMX TANKS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHT ARMAMENTS;
15 TOWING TANKS (CHARS DE PEPANNAGE);
2,500 TONS OF AMMUNITION AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FOR
THESE TANKS.

C. UNDER A THIRD CONTRACT, 32 MIRAGE E'S AND SIX
MIRAGE B'S ARE TO BE DELIVERED. HADASS SAID THREE MIRAGE
E'S HAVE ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED.

2. COMMENT: HADASS SEEMED VERY SURE OF HIS FACTS AND
WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION
HE PROVIDED. DEFATT INDICATES THAT AMLS SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED WHEELED ARMORED VEHICLES, NOT TANKS. WHILE
USEFUL IN COUNTERINSURGENCY SITUATIONS, THEIR
BATTLEFIELD SURVIVABILITY AGAINST A WELL-EQUIPPED FOE
IS LOW.
STONE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED TEL AVIV.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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